

## Racial Profiling Complaints

If you feel you are a victim of Racial Profiling, please contact the Belton Police Department Professional Standards Division at (254) 933-5840, to file a complaint. Complaint procedures are:

1. Contact a police supervisor, or any police employee and ask for a *Citizen Written Complaint Form*, or send a notarized letter to the Chief of Police at the Belton Police Department, PO Box 120, Belton, TX 76513.
2. Your written statement must be signed and should be detailed and specific. Texas Law (Local Govt. Code 614.022) requires that for a formal investigation to be conducted, a complaint must be in writing and signed by the complainant. This can be in the form of a letter from the complainant or on the department's *Citizen's Written Complaint Form*
3. Texas law (Local Govt. Code 614.023) also requires that the concerned employee be furnished with a copy of the written complaint in order to respond to the allegations. However, you need NOT be concerned about retributions for legitimately stating a complaint because procedures are in place to prevent this.
4. All complaints will be investigated in the most expeditious manner possible and you will be notified of the outcome of the investigation.

Citizen Complaint brochures are available in the lobby of the police department and they contain more detailed information on the complaint process.



### BELTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 120  
711 East 2nd Ave.  
Belton, Texas 76513

Phone: 254-933-5840

Fax: 254-933-5835

E-mail: [police@ci.belton.tx.us](mailto:police@ci.belton.tx.us)

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*Dedicated to Providing  
Excellent Service Through  
Partnerships that Build Trust...*

## RACIAL PROFILING

*Our Stance Against It and  
The Complaint Process*



**(254) 933-5840**

[www.ci.belton.tx.us](http://www.ci.belton.tx.us)

Texas law mandates that all law enforcement agencies provide an annual report to their governing body (City Council) detailing the race and ethnicity of all persons issued a citation or arrested in conjunction with a traffic stop or motor vehicle contact. Additionally, racial profiling data will be required to be reported to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) beginning March 2011.

The Belton Police Department is a “Tier 1” reporting agency. Tier 1 agencies have audio/video equipment in their patrol vehicles to document motor vehicle contacts. We comply with the Texas Racial Profiling law by tracking the following information on motor vehicle contacts that result in a citation or arrest:

1. Race / Ethnicity.
2. Information on searches of vehicles.
3. Reason for the stop.
4. Whether the officer knew the race of an individual prior to the stop.

## **Proactive & Professional**

A fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States to all who live in this nation is to the equal protection under the law. Along with this right to equal protection is the fundamental right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by governmental agents. Citizens are free to walk and drive on our streets, highways, and other public places without police interference so long as they obey the law. They also are entitled to be free from crime, from the depredations of criminals, and to drive and walk in public areas safe from the actions of reckless and careless drivers.

The Belton Police Department is charged with protecting these rights, for all, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, physical handicap, religion, or other belief system.

Because of the nature of our business, law enforcement officers are required to be observant, to identify unusual occurrences and law

violations, and to act upon them. It is this proactive enforcement that keeps our citizens free from crime, our streets and highways safe to drive upon, that detects crime, and apprehends criminals.

We will accomplish this total mission in a way that respects the dignity of all persons and yet sends a strong deterrent message to actual and potential lawbreakers that if they break the law, they are likely to encounter the police.

## **Policy**

It is the policy of the Belton Police Department to patrol in a proactive manner, to aggressively investigate suspicious persons and circumstances, and to actively enforce Texas motor vehicle laws, while insisting that citizens will only be stopped or detained when there exists reasonable suspicion to believe they have committed, are committing, or are about to commit, an infraction of the law.